

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 106449  
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NSC-05 L-03 SY-05 USSS-00 MCT-01  
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01  
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 CAB-02 DOTE-00  
FAA-00 /073 R

DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:JMSEYMOUR:DJW

APPROVED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS

A/SY - MR. HICKEY (INFO)

L/SFP - MR. FIELDS (INFO)

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

NSC - DENNIS CLIFT

-----111228Z 012964 /53

P 110433Z MAY 77

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE PRIORITY

INFO AMCONSUL ZAGREB PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106449

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAIR, YO, US

SUBJECT: HIJACKING TRIAL

REF: (A) STATE 83100, (B) STATE 48602

1. GUILTY VERDICTS WERE RENDERED BY THE JURY LATE  
MAY 5 AFTER THREE DAYS OF DELIBERATION. ZVONKO AND  
JULIENNE BUSIC, CONVICTED OF AIR PIRACY RESULTING IN  
DEATH AS WELL AS THE LESSER TWO COUNTS, FACE A MANDA-  
TORY LIFE SENTENCE. THE OTHER TWO DEFENDANTS, PETAR  
MATANIC AND FRANE PESUT, WERE ACQUITTED OF THE FIRST  
BUT CONVICTED OF THE AIR PIRACY AND CONSPIRACY COUNTS.  
THEY FACE FROM TWENTY YEARS TO LIFE.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 106449

2. ASSISTANT U.S. ATTORNEY PETER SCHLAM ON MAY 10 TOLD  
US HE EXPECTS SENTENCING OF ALL DEFENDANTS IN 6-8 WEEKS.  
THIS INCLUDES MARK VLASIC, WHO HAD EARLIER PLEADED  
GUILTY TO THE AIR PIRACY COUNT (REF B). PURSUANT TO  
HIS GUILTY PLEA, VLASIC FACES A MINIMUM TWENTY TO  
MAXIMUM THIRTY YEARS SENTENCE. IF, AS SEEMS PROBABLE,

THE DEFENDANTS EXERCISE THEIR APPEAL RIGHTS AFTER SENTENCING, SCHLAM ESTIMATES ANOTHER SIX MONTHS FOR A FINAL DECISION.

3. SCHLAM SAID THE STATE NOW PREFERS NOT TO UNDERTAKE FULL COURT PROCEEDINGS. ACCORDINGLY, IT IS CURRENTLY TRYING TO GET GUILTY PLEAS TO THE LESSER STATE CHARGES.

4. YUGOSLAV EMBASSY OFFICERS, INFORMED OF THE FOREGOING, EXPRESSED SATISFACTION. ONE EXPRESSED HIS PERSONAL VIEW THAT THE LENGTH OF SENTENCE MATTERS LITTLE AND INDICATED THAT BELGRADE WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH THE "ATTITUDE" OF THE U.S. TOWARD THE TRIAL. CHRISTOPHER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** AIRCRAFT HIJACKING, ANTIHIJACKING PROCEDURES, TRIALS, COURT DECISIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 11-May-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977STATE106449  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** JMSEYMOUR:DJW  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770165-1003  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770569/aaaachqt.tel  
**Line Count:** 75  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 7f783096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ORIGIN EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 83100, 77 STATE 48602  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2562212  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** HIJACKING TRIAL  
**TAGS:** PFOR, EAIR, YO, US, (BUSIC, JULIENNE), (BUSIC, ZVONKO), (MATANIC, PETAR), (PESUT, FRANE)  
**To:** BELGRADE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/7f783096-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009